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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/801,575	03/17/2004	Yosuke Watanabe	Q78525	2735
23373	7590	06/06/2007		
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20037			EXAMINER IQBAL, KHAWAR	
			ART UNIT 2617	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 06/06/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/801,575	Applicant(s) WATANABE ET AL.	
	Examiner Khawar Iqbal	Art Unit 2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 April 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 16-19,21-26,34,35 and 41-52 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 16-19,21-26,34,35 and 41-52 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 16-19-21-23,25-26,34-35,40-47,49-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Choi (6867961) and further in view of Hsu (6804861).

Regarding claims 16,41 Choi teaches a folding electric device (portable computer) comprising (figs. 1-3):

an upper unit (20); a lower unit (10)(fig. 3);

a connecting member that electrically connects said upper unit to said lower unit (col. 3, lines 22-30); and

a hinge that connects said upper unit to said lower unit, wherein said hinge comprises (col. 3, lines 30-58):

a perpendicular opening and closing shaft to perpendicularly open and close said upper unit with respect to said lower unit (fig. 1, col. 3, lines 30-58);

and

a horizontal rotation shaft, connected to said lower unit, to horizontally rotate said upper unit with respect to said lower unit, wherein said upper unit comprises (fig. 2, col. 2, lines 1-35):

a first engagement portion being adapted to have said perpendicular opening and closing shaft inserted therein (figs. 2 and 3, col. 4, line 35-col. 5, line 2); and

a second engagement portion being adapted to have said connecting member arranged therein (figs. 2 and 3, col. 4, line 35-col. 5, line 2); first and second brackets which are fixed to the horizontal rotation shaft, wherein the first brackets supports the perpendicular opening and closing shaft (figs. 2 and 3, col. 4, line 35-col. 5, line 2). Choi does not specifically teach the second bracket has the connecting member inserted therein.

On the other hand Hsu from the same field of endeavor, discloses the second bracket has the connecting member inserted therein (fig. 3 and 6, col. 3, lines 4-7, col. 5, lines 27-35). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Choi by specifically adding feature bracket has the connecting member inserted therein in order to enhance communicating with a display portion of a portable device as taught by Hsu.

Regarding claims 17,42 Choi teaches wherein said horizontal rotation shaft is connected to said lower unit vertically to a surface of said lower unit (figs. 2 and 3, col. 4, line 35-col. 5, line 2).

Regarding claims 18,43 Choi teaches wherein said horizontal rotation shaft is located between said first and second engagement portions (fig. 3, col. 2, lines 1-35).

Regarding claims 19,44 Choi teaches wherein said first engagement portion and second engagement portion are formed separately from each other (fig. 3, col. 2, lines 1-35, col. 4, line 35-col. 5, line 2).

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Regarding claims 21,45 Choi teaches wherein said connecting member is wound around said horizontal rotation shaft (figs. 2-3, col. 2, lines 1-35, col. 4, line 35-col. 5, line 2).

Regarding claims 22,46 Choi teaches wherein said connecting member is a winding flexible board (col. 3, lines 22-30).

Regarding claim 23,47 Choi teaches further comprising an operation input section, mounted on said hinge and electrically connected to said winding flexible board so that a user can operate said operation input section when said folding electric device is in a folded state (col. 3, lines 22-30, col. 2, lines 1-35, col. 4, line 35-col. 5, line 2).

Regarding claims 25,49 Choi teaches further comprising a display arranged on said upper unit (portable computer, fig. 1, element 22).

Regarding claims 26,50 Choi teaches further comprising input keys arranged on said lower unit (portable computer, fig. 1, element 12).

Regarding claim 34,51 Choi teaches further comprising a bobbin, arranged between said horizontal rotation shaft and said base, for winding said winding flexible board around said horizontal rotation shaft (col. 3, lines 22-30, col. 2, lines 1-35, col. 4, line 35-col. 5, line 2).

Regarding claim 35,52 Choi teaches further comprising flexible board fixing member for fixing said flexible board to said hinge (col. 3, lines 22-30, col. 2, lines 1-35, col. 4, line 35-col. 5, line 2).

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3. Claims 24 and 48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Choi (6867961), and further in view of Hsu (6804861) and Haraguchi et al (6813146).

Regarding claim 24 and 48 Choi and Hsu do not specifically state mobile phone.

On the other hand Haraguchi et al from the same field of endeavor, discloses mobile phone (fig. 2-3 and 6, col. 1, lines 7-9). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Choi and Hsu by specifically adding feature mobile phone in order to enhance communicating with other device as taught by Haraguchi et al.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 16-19,21-26,34,35 and 41-52 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

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shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Khawar Iqbal whose telephone number is (571) 272-7909.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, George Eng can be reached on (571) 272-7495. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free) or 703-305-3028.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist/customer service whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

Khawar Iqbal


GEORGE ENG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER